

let us now also start thinking in terms of your box score.

Dear Jim,

5/12/75

Consider a letter along this line to the AG

I really write this letter to prevent your needless embarrassment and that of the DJ.

My client, HW, has for several years been asking for two Watergate items, both used in open court. I was with him on two occasions when he sought this public evidence, after it had been used, even in facsimile, and did not get it. On the second occasion, his reception was not even civil. The official would not even take his name, address and phone number,

He went through all the procedures as he was told and filed two different appeals with two different Attorneys General, neither of which even received acknowledgement.

The violations of law and regulation are apparent, if not vindictive. If I file a Complaint and attach samples of the public use of this public evidence it will embarrass you and put us to unnecessary cost. On a previous similar occasion he was awarded a summary judgement.

He has asked for two different items of evidence in Watergate cases. One is the addressbooks of the Cubans, introduced in the first Watergate trial, prior to the establishing of the Office of Special Prosecutor. The second is the first 39 pages of the grand jury testimony of E. Howard Hunt, used in the Ellsberg case in Los Angeles, the case presided over by Judge Byrne.

In the second case he had a friend make a request of the court. What actually happened is incredible. First the government presented the matter to a second judge. The judge ruled that Mr. W was entitled to these papers but said what he had been told, that Mr. W would be better advised to send a typist to recopy them because they are that illegible. Mr. W instead opted to get the unclear copies and sent the check in the amount he was told. Later it was simply returned to him. He also has this to append to a complaint.

And he can produce an affidavit from the reporter friend who went to all this trouble for him, entirely unnecessary trouble.

If our purposes included embarrassing the government I believe that if you examine the record and facts in this case you will agree it provides an ideal opportunity. However, our purposes are not and never have been any except to obtain that to which the law entitles my client. He has a unique record of having been ^{decided} sustained by the courts in every case, once with an assist from Congress and sometimes on appeal as an alternative to suit.

My client is a writer, His purposes are serious, His means limited. He is now recovering from two serious illnesses. He plans to resume the writing for which he sought these two items of court evidence.

If we are forced to file, I will also file for costs as the law allows. I will also invoke the other provisions of the law. I do, with the clear record, believe my client would be entitled to damages and he has, in fact, been damaged. With the long record of what amounts to harassment prior to your taking office, one clearly designed to frustrate the law and to impose great hardships on my client, I do feel that the courts and the Congress would take note of this I believe unprecedented record. Unless the Department keeps special records you can't begin to imagine the number of cases in which he has had to fight and fight and fight at great cost to his work to obtain what was always initially denied and in a very large number of cases was given to him, in every one in which he has persisted. He tells me the instances are ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ well over a dozen and may easily total more.

When what he seeks was used in open court and was reproduced widely in facsimile, even on TV, I fail to see any reason to deny it to him or to put him to all this trouble.

I therefore hope that instead of taking the word of those who by now have a vested interest in defending their pasts you will look into this personally and, because of all the cost and trouble he has been put to, merely mail copies to my client. I will delay filing, at my client's request, until you have had time to respond.